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MFA Masters of Fine Arts in Creative Media
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As the son of David Francis Willis, a stone sculptor and painter, my life is rooted in the arts. I was born in the U.K., raised in Germany, and in Okinawa, Japan. My world experience has always been a cross-cultural engagement in a transition generation, in-between analog and digital societies. My creative has been a journey from fine art painting, fashion design, to documentary filmmaking, sound engineering, web design, building virtual environments, and ultimately to physical computing and interaction design. Yet as the times, the world, and my work have become ever more technology-driven, it becomes even more important to keep focus that the purpose of interaction design, is to facilitate interaction between people and between people and their environments.

In my art, my research and teaching I strive to keep the balance between humanity and technology. I develop the digital virtual, and bring that into the physical environment and experience design. In teaching the next generations to navigate the technology and design of the future, particularly here in China, I encourage my students to keep touch with their culture, their language, their roots, their neighborhoods and what traditions remain us. For it is this cross-cultural communication which makes any investigation of interaction and design valid and useful.

In my opinion, Human Computer Interaction does not exist, for any technologically based interaction is ultimately between people, if not individuals communicating and collaborating through a digital enabler, then an individual interacting with information through the designs of the system developer. And in designing functional interactivity, it is people, as groups who form cultures, and individual members of those cultures, who I seek to engage. Technology is just a vehicle, a means to arrive at a more fulfilling communication a dynamic world view, a real cultural exchange.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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| 2014-present | Research Associate, Co-Creation Institute, HKPolyU School of Design |
| 2014 | Instructor, School of Design, Polytechnic University of Hong Kong
MSc Multimedia Entertainment Technology: Interactive Multimedia Environments & Sound Design |
| 4/2014 | Linocut Print Workshops, SCM, City University Hong Kong, General Education Course |
| 3/2014 | Final Cut Pro Video Edit Workshops, Chinese University Hong Kong,
Postgraduate Program in Visual Cultures |
| 2013-14 | Robotist intern, OpenCog Artificial General Intelligence Project, Hong Kong Polyu |
| 2014.1.21 | Moderator: Film Screening and Discussion with Ty Lawson, MScMET |
| 2014.1.3-4 | Coordinator: Polyu SD Student excursion with Gino Yu, Taipei National University of the Arts,
University of Science and Technology Taipei, Presentations on Entrepreneurship and Regaining
Creativity, Screening of Coffee High, Max Willis 2013 |
| 2013 | Lecturer, School of Design, Polytechnic University of Hong Kong, BA Interactive Media
Multiplatform Publishing & Crossmedia Content Development, Digital Aesthetics |
| 2012 | Art Director and Postproduction Specialist, "Golden Gate Girls" Documentary film on Esther Eng,
Directed by Law Kar and S. Louisa Wei - Hong Kong International Film Festival 2013 |
| 2011 | Linocut Print Workshop, co-host with Dr. S Louisa Wei, City University Hong Kong,
General Education Course |
| 2010-2012 | Art Technology Consultant, Penghao Theatre Beijing . Events, Lectures
Space Design, cafe management and space design |
| 2010.6.30 | Discussion Panel Member, Creative Asia 2010, from Asian City Culture Creative and Design Alliance
Jinning, China |

- 2010.2 -6 Research Assistant, to Prof. Leon Xiao, Institute of Creative and Cultural Industries, Beijing
- 2009-10 Senior Research Assistant, to Dr. S. Louisa Wei, City University of Hong Kong
GE Course Development, Drawing and Modern Painting
- 2009 Lecturer, School of Design, Polytechnic University of Hong Kong
'Multimedia Fundamentals', 'Computing Technology', 'Design in the Post Digital Age' - Interaction Design and Useability Testing
- 2009 Senior Research Assistant, to Dr. S. Louisa Wei, City University of Hong Kong
'Independent Documentary Filmmaking in Hong Kong'
- 2007- 08 Teaching Assistant to Dr. Steve Fore, School of Creative Media, City University of Hong Kong
'Society, Culture and New Technology', 'Art of Moving Image' Film Art and Cinematography
- 2008 Executive editor and founder, 'zhuan' City University Students' and Staff arts and literature publication, 2 editions, Hong Kong
- 2007 – 08 Art Director "Storm Under the Sun" Directed by Peng Xiao Lian and S. Louisa Wei.
Hong Kong International Film Festival Premierre
- 2006 Shake Compositing Trainer, Digiparc, Berlin
- 2004-05 Organizer, Training Coordinator, Berlin Final Cut Pro Users Group
MEDIAART, DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE
- 18/4 2014 Stage Production Manager and Video Art, Moving Sounds Leisure Motions Dance Performance,
Fringe Club, Central, Hong Kong
- 7/2013 Stage Design for Theatre, "The Promise" Written: Aleksei Arbuzov, Dir: Liang Dandan; Soma cube as
abstracted set, theatre in the round, live piano accompaniment, minimal lighting, D&G Fashions
- 2010-2013 Performance Event Series, True Jade Lounge, Electronic Music, Poetry and Scriptreading, Spoken
Word, Regular Event Series begun 2010.11
- 2012 Short Film Screening "Skate to the Glacier" 60min, Penghao Theatre Cafe
- 2010 Performance, Journey Between Worlds, live painting, ambisonic soundspace, oral storytelling,
Beijing Penghao Theatre 2010.12.16&17
- 2009 Videography, WWF Hong Kong Mai Po virtual tour, video design for online information application.
- 2008 Interaction Design "Processing on Linux"; Development Project, Video and Interface with Open Source
- 2008 Interactive Installations "Chinese Charms: Arts, Religion and Folklore"; Exhibiton with Alex Chengyu
Fang at Chinese Civilization Center http://www.meitiyishu.com/studiom/pf_cciv.htm

Video Installation "Reuse, Recycle and Refine", 9-screen audio/video

Interactive Media Exhibition, 'Pull Senses Together', with Kam Wong and Lee Man Ching, Shanghai
Street Art Space, Hong Kong, July 1-15
- 2007 Performance Sketch Video, Shanghai Street Art Space, Hong Kong, March 17
- 2006 Flash XML SMIL project "Media I Ching" - www.maxwillis.net/media_iching

Mobile Phone Comics - development of mobile java applications, www.maxwillis.net/thego

Web Design, Internet platform with Videotage and Milkshake www.letartdisturbU.org (discontinued)

Performance Live Video "Random Specific" at Videotage, Cattle Depot, Hong Kong, Dec 16
- 2005 Performance Avatar Lecture and Animation "State of Puppet", Volksbühne Berlin
- 2004 Virtual Environment Design, www.hongkongvirtual.com

- 2003 Digital Mapping "Mai Po Biotope Mapping Key", Mai Po Nature Reserve Hong Kong
www.maxwillis.net/maipo
- 2002 Flash XML Application "Cukurova Delta Biotope" www.luminousgreen.net/cukurova
Virtual Environment Design, Berlin Ostbahnhof www.ostbahnhof.de
VIDEO ART AND EDITING www.maxwillis.net/video
- 2010 WWF Hong Kong Mai Po Virtual Tour video project, apps.wwf.org.hk/eng/virtual_tour/
- 2008 "Storm Under the Sun", Art Director and Lead Animator, 140 min documentary film by Peng Xiao Lian and S. Louisa Wei, Blue Queen Cultural Communication
"Traditional Paper Making", Dimen Village Museum, Quzhou, PRC, 8min documentary
"Stormy Outside", Hong Kong, 6min dance video
"Alone the Cats", Hong Kong 8 min, MFA thesis work, animation, soundspace and spoken word
"Rochelle Yang, Latin Superstars Dance", dance video
- 2007 "Hong Kong Dental Lab" - 10 min promotional video
"In Waves", sound art with visuals
"SCM Graduation Show" documentation video
"A Fine Day", assistant editor to Xia Shu, Lijiang, Yunnan, China 33min, documentary
"Ciu Jian: Rocking China" documentary film by S. Louisa Wei, trailer edit
"A Mobile World" starring Calvin Lau and Sun Jialu 10min DV dramatic video
"The Journey pts 1 and 2" mobile comics (selection 8th University Shortfilm Competition, Beijing)
"Bike Trek Lantau" Lantau Island, Hong Kong, documentation
"Robert Ellis-Geiger at Shaw Studios", scoring seminar documentation Hong Kong Philharmonic
"ST/ART on the Farm" Hong Kong, documentary
- 2006 "Miho at zero" (selection 8th University Shortfilm Competition, Beijing)
"Dzuguuun 1" Berlin screened at Tromanale 2006 www.tromanale.de
VIDEO ART AND EDITING www.maxwillis.net/video (cont.)
- 2005 "Festival" Mysore, South India, video art
"Working Women" Bangalore and Mysore, South India, video art
"Indigo at Yaoqu" Xishuangbanna, Yunnan, China, documentary
- 2004 "Temple at Manlei" Xishuangbanna, Yunnan, China
"Three Grasses" Yunnan, China (screened at Tromanale Berlin February 2005)
"videogeist@kinzo" w/larry heard "mr. fingers" and brett dancer Berlin
"Parade" Hong Kong, China
- 2003 "Fotanart", Fotan, Hong Kong, China
"videogeist@kinzo" w/ gbr. Teichmann Berlin
- PAINTING EXHIBITIONS:
- 2007 Hong Kong July 1 to 15 - live painting and exhibit Shanghai Street Art Space
2005 Berlin Galerie Zero. four weeks live painting with Anna Krenz (PL)
2004 Berlin Berlinova
2001 Sulzburg, Germany, Open Studios
1997 - 2000 St. Ilgen, Germany, Bushmann Dyeworks, Open Studios
1997 Freiburg, Germany, Jos Fritz, first solo exhibition